

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Paw Paw; Odd Fellows Academy, Odd Fellows Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Paw Paw building (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 68 North Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Port Deposit

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

COUNTY

Cecil

CODE

005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Port Deposit Heritage, Inc.

To be restored as a library and museum.

STREET & NUMBER

68 North Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Port Deposit

VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cecil County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CE-211

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Paw Paw building or Paw Paw was built in 1821 by the First Methodist Episcopal congregation of Port Deposit. This slightly rectangular building measures 36' x 40'. It is two stories in height and has a hip roof covered with asbestos shingles. The Paw Paw is constructed of stone covered with plaster on both the interior and the exterior. There was a box pulpit very high at the north end. Across the southern end was a gallery for the black members of the congregation who had a separate entrance in the southeastern corner of the church. There were also separate entrances for the men and women. The women's entrance was also on the north side of the building, but at the western end of that wall. The men's entrance was on the facade of the Paw Paw. Once inside the church, the women sat on the eastern side and the men sat on the western. Located centrally on the rear wall is a chimney made of brick which was for an old stove. The window sash throughout are 6/6. Some of them remain but are without glass. Every window had louvered shutters in 1914 and most of these are on the building site. Several of the shutters on the facade have strap hinges. Over the windows there are stone and wooden lintels as well as splayed arches of stone. There is no conformity or pattern evident. The exterior is very plain as is the box cornice and the frieze board. Each of the doors is panelled and has a transom over it. The sills of the doors are granite.

The facade of the Paw Paw has a centrally located entrance. A raised platform porch once extended from it with stairs leading down to a lower level on the south (in 1914 picture). This door is flanked on both sides by a pair of windows. The second story has two windows located on either side of the center of the building like the first story. Directly over the first floor door is an indented square space which could have housed a name or date plaque. The rear wall of the Paw Paw has no windows or doors.

The northern exterior wall has five windows, three on the first story and two on the second. Its southern counterpart has two panelled entrance doors located at each end with one window in the middle. On the second story there are two windows evenly separated.

The interior of the first story has a new floor. Dividing the building in half are three square columns spaced at different intervals. On the east wall the brick chimney is visible. This was connected to a small stove on each story. The interior of the second story has had the most alteration: Where there was no floor but open space for those in the gallery to listen and watch a floor has been added. One long hewn beam is exposed running north and south. Off of the main room which is located over the men's seating section are three small rooms. All of the doors on the second floor are panelled and have architrave trim. The

See continuation sheet 1.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Paw Paw Building
Cecil County

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Description - continued

ceiling of the main room has some crown moulding under it. The baseboard of this room changes as it reaches the north and south walls. It slowly arches upward about one and a half feet then runs across the wall to the side where it again slopes downward. The stairway to the second floor is completely enclosed and separated from the first floor by a plaster wall. The interior walls are lath covered by plaster. The main room has some wallpaper remaining on the walls.

Outside of the black's entrance are several granite stones arranged in a square to form a small stoop. Extending from the northeast corner of the Paw Paw and running parallel to the facade is a stone retaining wall which is broken only for steps down to the street level. Near the southwest corner are several granite steps leading down from the side entrances to the ground between the Paw Paw and the retaining wall.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE 291

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1821 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Paw Paw building was used as a church from the time of its erection in 1821 until 1839 when a new church was built across the street. In the 1820's it was one of the churches on the Cecil and Strasburg circuits. After 1839 it was used as a school and was called Heath of Health Academy from the name of the teacher. From 1852 to 1867 the building served as a meeting place for Harmony Lodge. In 1860 it was also known as the Odd Fellows Academy which was a local school.

In 1877 the Cornish family operated a grocery store and "dining salon" in the Paw Paw. In 1894 Snow's Battery held their reunion at the "Odd Fellows Hall." This group was a society of Civil War Veterans, all from Port Deposit.

Until recently the building has been used as an apartment and also a recreation hall for the youth of the town. During the 1950's record hops and square dances were held on the first floor.

The Port Deposit Heritage, Inc: intends to restore the building to its 1914 appearance and use the Paw Paw for a library and museum.

In 1849, Mr. Elijah Reynolds had to move his carpenter shop into the Academy due to ice damage to his shop.

The following is from December 15, 1888 edition of the Whig (Elkton):

"In 1824 he [Rev. John Goforth] was on the Dauphin Circuit and in 1826 was junior preacher for Cecil Circuit. He was virtually in charge of Rock Run the first three years of its history (1819-1821) and in the latter year the first or Paw Paw church was built against the hill about the middle of the town on land donated by the mother of the Hon. J.A.J. Cresswell. It is a solid stone building, 36' x 40'....

"In May 1839, the official board resolved to build a new church.... It is a solid granite structure opposite the first or Paw Paw church, and was dedicated December 29, 1839.... (Nesbitt Hall - 40' x 55'.)

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CE-271

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Paw Paw Building
CONTINUATION SHEET Cecil County ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Statement of Significance - continued

"During the pastorate of J.A. Brindle, Hon. Jacob Tome had begun the erection of the third structure as a memorial to his wife, a short distance north of the first and on the same side of the street. This was finished in 1872....

"This handsome structure is 55' x 102'---- it will be perceived that every time we have built a new church we have taken the length of the next preceding for the width of the new--- and this promises to be more than adequate for all the needs of the indefinite future...."

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Miller - History of Cecil County

The Daily Times, Smyrna, Delaware, March 19, 1875

CE-291

Methodist Episcopal Church Records --Historical Record

Cecil Whug -- Private letters.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 60 x 100 feet

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 403970 4384610
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Grace C. Humphries, President

ORGANIZATION

Port Deposit Heritage, Inc.

DATE

12/18/75

STREET & NUMBER

68 North Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Port Deposit

STATE

Maryland 21904

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

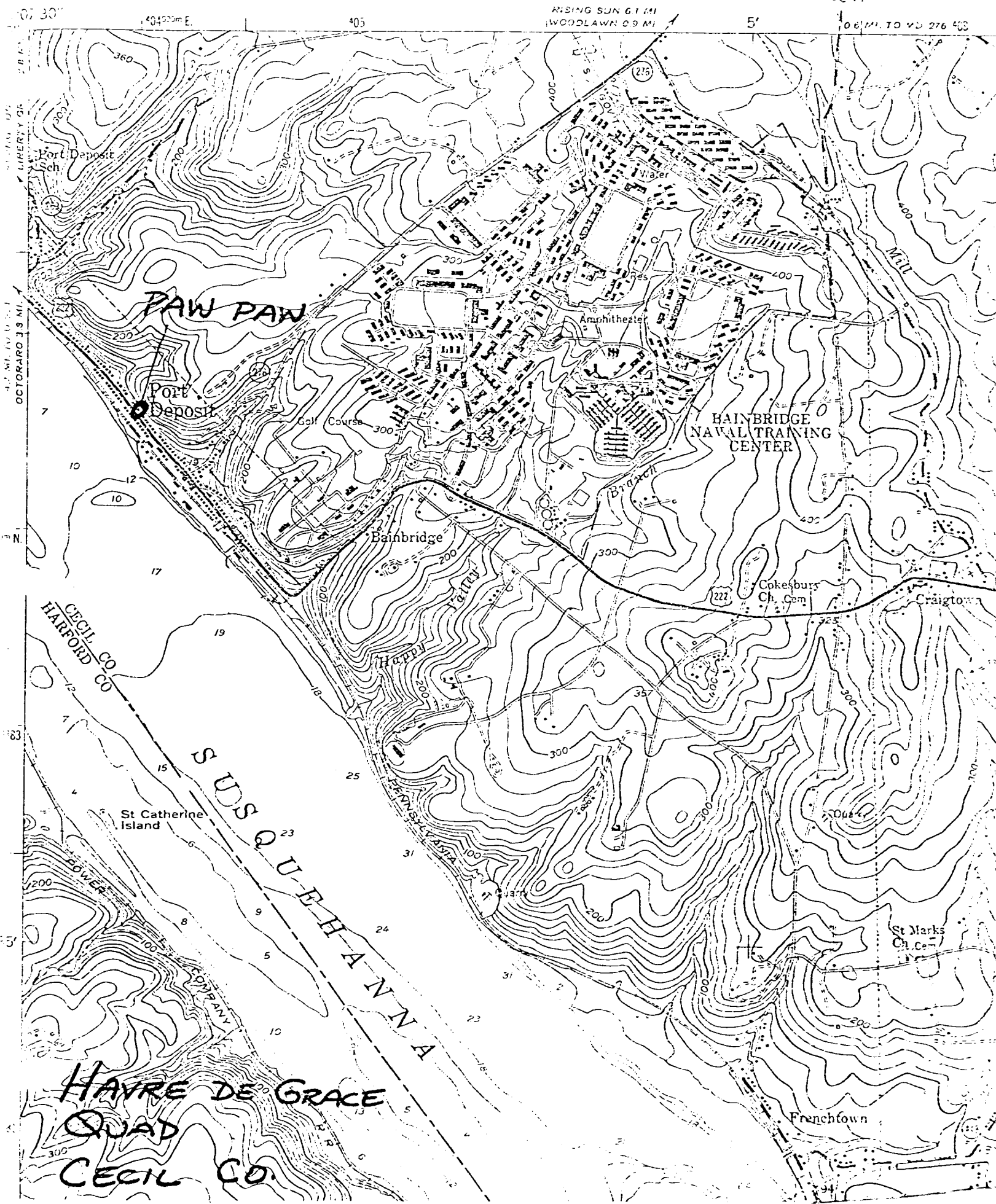
EST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CE 291



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: <i>(Old Methodist Episcopal Church)</i>				
AND/OR HISTORIC: <i>"Paw-Paw Hall"</i>				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>North Main Street, east side</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Port Deposit</i>				
STATE: <i>Maryland</i>		COUNTY: <i>Cecil</i>		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<i>Vacant church</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: <i>Towne Methodist Episcopal Church</i>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>N. Main Street</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Port Deposit</i>		STATE: <i>MD 21904</i>		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <i>Clerk of the Circuit Court</i>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>Cecil County Courthouse</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Elkton</i>		STATE: <i>MD 21921</i>		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ Excellent☐ Good☐ Fair

(Check One)

☒ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This fieldstone building is covered with stucco, chipping badly. The roof is gabled, windows are boarded up, the porch entry is gone and doors are broken in.

Oblong, it is 2 stories high, 5 bays by 3 facing west. The hip roof ridgeline running north-south. The doorway is a six panelled door under a 4 light transom.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1821

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

osophy

☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(This building would be difficult to restore, judging from the fact that it has been open to the weather for years it is safe to assume that little remains of the interior.)

Built for the first Methodist Church it was later used as an academy, and was the meeting place for Harmony Lodge of Masons between 1852-67.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Identified as "Oldest Methodist Church" by Lake Griffin & Stevenson in Illustrated Atlas of Cecil County 1877
 Alice E Miller, Cecil County, Maryland, Shelton, Maryland,
 C & L Prentiss & Specialty Co., 1949, p. 126

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN D. EWING	
ORGANIZATION MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY	DATE
STREET AND NUMBER: 8525 RIVA ROAD	
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS	STATE AND MARYLAND

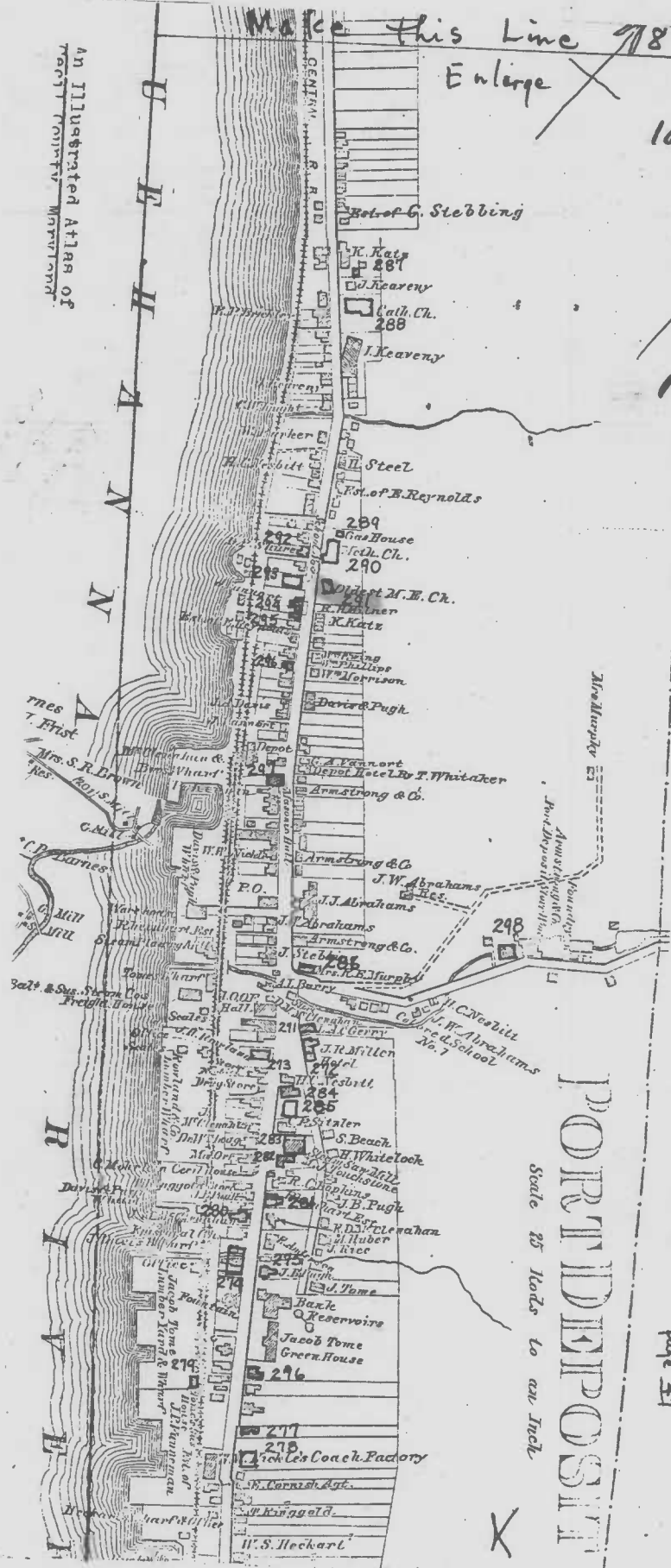
12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____



PORT DEPOSIT

PORT DEPOSIT
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
CELL CO.

page 47

HAVRE DE GRACE
QUATS



CE-291 Paw Paw Bldg., Post Deposit

~~WPA~~ ~~WPA~~



CE-291

Paw Paw Building

North Main Street

Port Deposit

West Elevation

Geoff Henry 3/86

Negatives at MHT



CE-291

Paw Paw Bldg.